Lesson 12
Why We Eat What We Eat
Use healthy oils (like olive and canola oil) for cooking, on salad, and at the table. Limit butter. Avoid trans fat.

The more veggies – and the greater the variety – the better. Potatoes and French fries don’t count.

Eat plenty of fruits of all colors.

• STAY ACTIVE!

Drink water, tea, or coffee (with little or no sugar). Limit milk/dairy (1-2 servings/day) and juice (1 small glass/day). Avoid sugary drinks.

Eat a variety of whole grains (like whole-wheat bread, whole-grain pasta, and brown rice). Limit refined grains (like white rice and white bread).

Choose fish, poultry, beans, and nuts; limit red meat and cheese; avoid bacon, cold cuts, and other processed meats.

Harvard Medical School
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How do typical American diets compare to U.S. dietary guidelines?

**Eat more of these:**
- Whole grains: 15% (Goal: 59%)
- Vegetables: 42% (Goal: 59%)
- Fruits: 40% (Goal: 56%)
- Fiber: 28% (Goal: 75%)
- Potassium: 28% (Goal: 56%)
- Vitamin D: 28% (Goal: 75%)
- Calcium: 75% (Goal: 75%)

**Eat less of these:**
- Calories from solid fats and added sugars: 280% (Limit: 200%)
- Refined grains: 149% (Limit: 200%)
- Sodium: 149% (Limit: 200%)